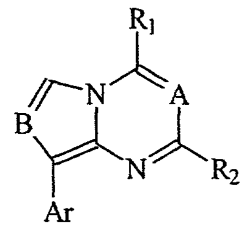
CLAIMS

1. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A and B are selected from CR and N;

R is selected from hydrogen and $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl;

R_1 is NR_3R_4;

R_2 is $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl;

R_3 is selected from hydrogen, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, mono- or di($C_{3\text{-}6}$cycloalkyl)methyl, $C_{3\text{-}6}$cycloalkyl; $C_{3\text{-}6}$alkenyl; hydroxy$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkylcarbonyloxy$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl and $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyloxy$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl;

R_4 is selected from $C_{1\text{-}8}$alkyl, mono- or di($C_{3\text{-}6}$cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2, $C_{3\text{-}6}$alkenyl, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyloxy$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, hydroxy$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkylthio$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di($C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl)amino$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, di($C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl)amino, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkylcarbonyl$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula -($C_{1\text{-}6}$alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar^1;

or R_3 and R_4 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl or $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyloxy;

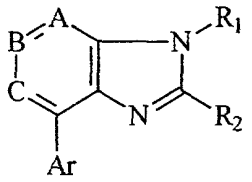
Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, triflouromethyl, cyano, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyloxy, benzyloxy, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di($C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, triflouromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyloxy, benzyloxy, $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di($C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

Ar^1 is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl and C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

2. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is stroke.

4. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A, B and C are selected from CR and N, with the proviso that when B is N both A and C are CR;

R is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_1 is selected from NR_3R_4 and R_5;

R_2 is C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; C_{3-6}alkenyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl and C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl;

R_4 and R_5 are independently selected from C_{1-8}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2, C_{3-6}alkenyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C_{1-6}alkylthioC_{1-6}alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula -(C_{1-6}alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar^1;

or R_3 and R_4 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkyloxy;

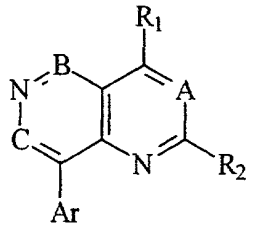
Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

Ar^1 is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl and C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

5. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 4.

6. The method of claim 14 wherein the disorder is stroke.

7. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A, B and C are selected from CR and N, with the proviso that one, and only one, of B and C is N;

R is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_1 is NR_3R_4;

R_2 is C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; C_{3-6}alkenyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl and C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl;

R_4 is selected from C_{1-8}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2, C_{3-6}alkenyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl, hrodroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C_{1-6}alkylthioC_{1-6}alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula -(C_{1-6}alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar^1;

or R_3 and R_4 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkyloxy;

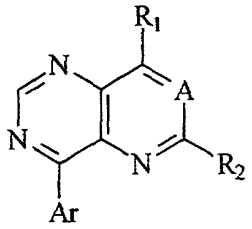
Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

Ar^1 is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl and C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

8. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 7.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the disorder is stroke.

10. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A is selected from CR and N;

R is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_1 is NR_3R_4;

R_2 is C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; C_{3-6}alkenyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl and C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl;

R_4 is selected from C_{1-8}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2, C_{3-6}alkenyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C_{1-6}alkylthioC_{1-6}alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula -(C_{1-6}alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar^1;

or R_3 and R_4 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkyloxy;

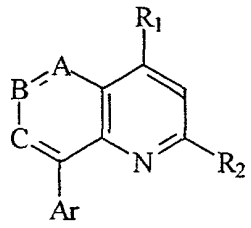
Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

Ar^1 is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl and C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

11. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 10.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the disorder is stroke.

13. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A, B and C are selected from CR and N, with the proviso that one, and only one, of B, C and D is N;

R is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_1 is NR_3R_4;

R_2 is C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; C_{3-6}alkenyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl and C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl;

R_4 is selected from C_{1-8}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2, C_{3-6}alkenyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C_{1-6}alkylthioC_{1-6}alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino,

C_{1-6}alkylcarbonylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula -(C_{1-6}alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar^1;

or R_3 and R_4 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkyloxy;

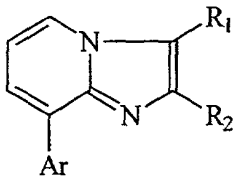
Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

Ar^1 is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl and C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

14. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 13.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the disorder is stroke.

16. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

R_1 is selected from NR_3R_4 and R_5;

R_2 is C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; C_{3-6}alkenyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl and C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl;

R_4 and R_5 are independently selected from C_{1-8}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2, C_{3-6}alkenyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C_{1-6}alkylthioC_{1-6}alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula -(C_{1-6}alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar^1;

or R_3 and R_4 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkyloxy;

Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C_{1-5}alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

Ar^1 is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, triflouromethyl and C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

17. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 16.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the disorder is stroke.